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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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No. 105

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATOR JONES today released a statement to the nation's farmers in which he said: "Review of the whole food situation makes it clear that production in line with the established goals for 1945 is even more important than when the goals were set. The need for continued high-level production is apparent, and the production pattern established by the goals is still the most practical balance for 1945. Nothing is more important in the entire war effort than for farmers to drive ahead with their production schedules, despite wartime handicaps."

"The 1945 acreage goals, he points out, total 363,635,000--nearly 3 percent more than the 1944 planted acreage. The goals also call for increased milk production; for a larger slaughter of beef cattle; and for increased pig farrowing.

"A recent survey of farmers' planting intentions shows that they are once more ready to go all-out on the food production front. In general, prospective plantings are close to the high goal levels, and indications are that most of the major crops will be planted in the quantity needed. There are a few spots, however, where special effort will be needed to reach the full goals."

The War Food Administrator presents some facts which "should be considered by farmers as they plan final steps to bring their production in line with goals." He gives pertinent information on the oilcrops--flax, soybeans, and peanuts--; wheat, barley, and flaxseed; potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans, sugar beets, feed grain and forage crops; and hay and pasture.

A HOME CANNING KIT containing aids for leaders in the home canning program for 1945 will be ready for release to the following individuals or organizations in about two weeks: Extension Service war food assistants, directors and editors, and county and state home demonstration agents; WFA state and local nutrition committees; state officers of FSA; state leaders of the Office of Education, the American Red Cross, and the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor; OPA district offices; and the national organizations which are cooperating in the food programs.

Some contents of the kit will be: background facts on the need for home canning, how to obtain sugar for canning, and what was done about home food preservation in 1944; sample press releases, feature stories, and radio scripts designed for use by local groups; suggestions for local activities of home food preservation leaders; and printed leaflets on home canning. On the covers of the kit, statements of the President, Secretary Wickard, and War Food Administrator Jones will be given.

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SURPLUS REAL PROPERTY. . . . Under a reassignment of agencies that will dispose of surplus real property, the Surplus Property Board has designated the U. S. Department of Agriculture to dispose of surplus land classified by the Board as suitable for forest or agricultural use. The new order on the subject is scheduled for publication in the Federal Register today.

THE SECOND REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF WAR MOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION, released April 1,

recommends legislation to authorize appropriate administrative agencies to make payments in lieu of farm support prices, whenever as a result of a decline in the domestic consumption or exports it is determined that the support prices are resulting in the accumulation of surpluses and when the over-all cost to the Government would be reduced by substituting direct payments for price supports; expand the present school-lunch program, to the end that all grade-and high-school children can participate within two or three years; combine the soil-conservation programs; temporarily retain price control and rationing after VE-day; extend the Export-Import Bank's authority; extend and strengthen the Trade Agreements Act; separate the Surplus Property Board from OWMR; authorize the President to consolidate, transfer, and curtail agencies after the defeat of Germany; such actions to be subject to Congressional disapproval; control distribution of manpower; give WLB statutory power to make its decisions enforceable; establish an International Monetary Fund and an International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE NEWS. . . . March 31, the President approved an appropriation of \$1,080,050 for control of insects (largely chinch bugs) and plant diseases. April 3, the Senate rejected the conference report on the manpower bill which includes a provision clarifying the Tydings amendment regarding farm-labor deferments. April 4, the Senate agreed to the conference report on the Commodity Credit Corporation bill which increases the borrowing power of this Corporation and continues its life as a United States agency; the bill will now be sent to the President. April 5, the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported a bill to extend the Lend Lease Act for one year; the bill has already been passed by the House.

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PLENTIFUL FOODS FOR MAY. . . . The forecast for plentiful foods throughout the greater part of the country during May includes carrots, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, oranges, apples, and eggs. Apple butter, citrus marmalade, jellies; and grape, plum, and fig jams continue in good supply. Other foods which will be readily available are dry-mix soups, dry edible peas, soya flour, grits and flakes, wheat flour and bread, macaroni, spaghetti, noodles and oatmeal. In some areas unusual military demands or transportation problems may cause temporary local shortages even though these foods are plentiful on a national scale.

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"THE FOOD SITUATION UP TO DATE" is the subject scheduled for the April 14 CONSUMER TIME program. A housewife goes to Washington--straight to WFA--and learns direct from the officials the answers to such timely questions as: Where is our meat going?; What are the prospects for more butter?; and What about the fruit and vegetable situation? On April 21, the program will discuss farming in general, to farm or not to farm, etc.

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RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Your Job as a Work Leader, AWI 96 (printed May 1944 and revised March 1945), an 8-page folder; A Call to Farms (for Women of America), AWI-111, a 4-page folder; Explosibility and Fire Hazard of Ammonium Nitrate Fertilizer, Circ. No. 719; 22 pp.

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WHY?? LESS SUGAR FOR HOME CANNING THIS YEAR. . . . The following reasons why there will be less sugar for home canning this year are set out on the April 1 OPA Consumer Point Chart: "1--Military needs are high. Each soldier actually consumes twice as much sugar a year as the average civilian now receives; 2--Ships which otherwise might be bringing sugar into the United States are hauling supplies to the battle fronts; 3--Manpower is scarce at sugar refineries and shipping ports; 4--Beet-sugar production last year was 500,000 tons short, making the stock of sugar smaller for this year; 5--Last year many people over applied for canning sugar. We used so much sugar that stocks at the beginning of this year were abnormally low."

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TWO FOREST SERVICE MOVIES will be released about April 15 to the Department's film depositories. One, "FORESTS FOREVER," is designed to show private forest owners the desirability of public regulations of their cutting practices and how they are expected to participate in this means of conserving and improving our forests. . . . The other, "REALM OF THE WILD," shows the need for control of the wild life resources of national forests to prevent overgrazing of browse and other vegetation necessary for watershed protection and for forage by domestic livestock and game. Both are 16mm., Kodachrome films.

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"IS THE PRESENT FOOD SHORTAGE NECESSARY" is the title of a debate scheduled for AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING broadcast from New Orleans April 12, 8:30 p.m., EWT (Blue Network). N. E. Dodd, Triple-A Chief, and Senator Allen J. Ellender, Democrat of Louisiana, will take the affirmative side of the debate. Ransom Aldrich, President of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, and Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper, Republican of Iowa, will support the negative side of the question.

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WITH THE USDA CLUBS. . . . At its April 11 meeting, the ALBUQUERQUE USDA CLUB will hear E. L. Moulton of the New Mexico Committee for Economic Development, speak on the "Relation of Agricultural Welfare to Industrial Employment." . . . "What Peace Can Mean to the American Farmer" will be discussed by Bushrod Allin of BAE and James G. Maddox, who is now on loan from BAE to the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, at the April 13 meeting of the PORTLAND (Oregon) USDA CLUB. . . . They will discuss the same subject at the April 25 meeting of the LINCOLN (Nebraska) CLUB.

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TIME FOR OPA'S WEEKLY BROADCAST CHANGED. . . . Beginning April 12, OPA's weekly broadcast (over the Blue Network) will take place at 4:15 p.m., EWT, instead of 7:45 p.m., as formerly. The programs will be re-broadcast over WMAL (Washington) on Friday afternoons at 2:30, EWT. On April 12, Price Administrator Chester Bowles will talk about the new share-the-meat plan and the meat black market.

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QUESTIONS ON GARDENING will be answered by Ernie Moore on the April 14 YOUR HOME AND GARDEN show. He will also announce that the week following is "National Garden Week." Ruth Van Deman will give up-to-the-minute homemaker news as usual.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . . February food sales total \$1,386,677--578; WFA Corn purchase to end May 1--583; Hay and Pasture seed loan program--586; WFA extends price support on dry peas--587; Statement by Wickard on S-89--Rural Electrification Planning Act of 1945--594; Forest Memorials honor fallen servicemen--615; Trial insurance offered on tobacco--618; Turkey procurement program for 1945--621; Statement by Marvin Jones to the Nation's farmers--626; Grower support prices for snap beans for canning increased--628.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . Raw material prices processors of frozen spinach may reflect in their ceiling prices announced--OPA-T-3095; April quota of new 1942 automobiles announced--OPA-5459; OES-OPA program with respect to meat prices--OWI-4230; Growers notified of proposed maximum prices for 1945 soybeans--OPA--5467; Regulation governing maximum prices of live cattle and calves amended--OPA-T-3106; No ceiling price increases for blended corn syrups--OPA-T-3101.

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USDA CLUB HEARS ABOUT HEALTH. . . . Some of the important contributions that the Department of Agriculture has made to public health was emphasized at a meeting of the Greater Kansas City USDA Club on March 20. Mrs. Margaret E. Wilhoit, Director of Public Health Nursing in the Kansas City Health Department was the guest speaker. She also discussed problems that will arise in connection with returning servicemen as well as everyday health problems.

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CHANGE IN DATES. . . . The date for the Amarillo, Texas premiere of the farm labor movie, "Victory Harvest," has been changed from April 11, as announced in last week's Calendar, to April 12.

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